

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:  
Kyoko Honbo et al.

Application No.: NOT YET ASSIGNED

Filed: March 30, 2004

Art Unit: N/A

For: LEAD-ACID BATTERY

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

Those patents which are marked with an asterisk (\*) next to the Cite No. in the attached form PTO/SB/08 are not supplied because they were previously cited by or

submitted to the Office in a prior Application Serial No. 10/096,505, filed March 13, 2002, and relied upon in this application for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 04-1073, under Order No. A8319.0017/P017-A.

Dated: March 30, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	NOT YET ASSIGNED
				Filing Date	March 29, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Kyoko Honbo
				Art Unit	N/A
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	A8319.0017/P017-A

<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
AA*		US-5,156,935	10-1992	Hohjo et al.	
AB*		US-4,589,999	05-1986	Vasta	
AC*		US-6,665,171	12-2003	Takamuka et al.	
AD*		US-5,667,917	09-16-1997	Edwards et al.	

<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
BA*		JP 02234352	09-17-1990		
BB*		JP 59160584	09-11-1984		
BC*		JP 54137478	10-25-1979		
BD*		JP 2001009286	01-16-2001		
BE*		JP 60183086	09-18-1985		
BF*		JP 11135127	05-21-1999		
BG*		JP 1796245	02-23-1993		
BH*		JP 59151963	08-30-1984		
BI*		JP 9213336	08-15-1997		
BJ*		JP 589873	04-09-1993		
BK*		CN 1113352	12-13-1995		

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

<b>NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T <sup>2</sup>

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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